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Voluntary _ Public

Date: 8/9/2016

GAIN Report Number: KZ-08

Kazakhstan - Republic of

Post: Astana

Draft SPS Measure to WTO

Report Categories:

WTO Notifications

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

FAIRS Subject Report

Approved By:

Robin Gray

Prepared By:

Zhamal Zharmagambetova

Report Highlights:

Kazakhstan notified the WTO on July 11, 2016 of recent amendments to their veterinary regulations, including measures to be taken when Bovine Leukosis is found in imported cattle. The deadline for comments was July 10, 2016, one day before the notification was submitted to the WTO.

General Information:

On July 11, 2016 Kazakhstan notified the WTO of recent amendments to their veterinary regulations, including measures to be taken when Bovine Leukosis is found in imported cattle via G/SPS/N/KAZ/2. The date of receiving the comments was due July 10, 2016, one day before the notification was submitted to the WTO. An unofficial English translation of the above-referenced draft documents can be found below.

BEGIN UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION

On amendments and additions to Order No. 7-1/587 of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan from June 29, 2015 "On the Approval of the Veterinary (Veterinary and Sanitary) Regulations"

I HEREBY ORDER:

I. The following amendments to the Order of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan from June 29, 2015 No. 7-1/587 "On the Approval of the Veterinary (Veterinary and Sanitary) Regulations" (registered in the Register of State Registration of Regulatory Legal Acts No. 11940, published in the Adylet Legal Information System on September 30, 2015):

Veterinary (Veterinary and Sanitary) Regulations approved by the present Order, paragraphs 1086 and 1087 shall be amended as follows:

1086: A disease-free premises shall perform scheduled serological tests as part of comprehensive veterinary and sanitary measures to ensure early detection of infected animals and the subsequent prevention of spreading of the disease, if found. The planned serological tests shall be performed in spring (prior to grazing in summer pastures) and/or autumn (prior to returning livestock to stalls), using methods specified in paragraph 1087 of the present Regulations.

1087: The following livestock shall be subject to diagnostic testing in accordance with the planned procedure to ensure early detection of brucellosis in the disease-free premises:

1) cattle:

- breeding stock, regardless of their physiological conditions Rose Bengal (plate) Test, Complement Fixation Test, twice a year;
- young stock 4-6 months of age Enzyme Immunoassay Test, once a year;
- sires Rose Bengal (plate) Test, Complement Fixation Test, every quarter; and
- remaining adult herd Rose Bengal (plate) Test, Complement Fixation Test, once a year.

• In cases of abortion, the aborted fetus shall be tested using the bacteriological examination with biosampling or Polymerase Chain Reaction methods, while the aborted cattle shall be tested for Rose Bengal (plate) Test, Complement Fixation Test;

2) sheep and goats:

- breeding stock twice a year (before insemination and after deliveries) Rose Bengal (plate) Test, Complement Fixation Test;
- young stock 3-4 months of age used for breeding Rose Bengal (plate) Test, Complement Fixation Test, once a year;
- remaining adult stock Rose Bengal (plate) Test, Complement Fixation Test, once a year;
- stud rams for brucellosis twice a year (before and after the mating period) Rose Bengal (plate) Test, Complement Fixation Test; and
- stud rams for infectious epipidymitis twice a year (before and after the mating period) Prolonged Complement Fixation Test.
- In cases of abortion, the aborted fetus shall be tested using the bacteriological examination with biosampling or Polymerase Chain Reaction methods, and the aborted ewes shall be tested for Rose Bengal (plate) Test, Complement Fixation Test.

3) swine:

- primary sows and stud boars once a year Polymerase Chain Reaction, Complement Fixation Test: and
- gilts, born in the current year, used for reproduction once a year Polymerase Chain Reaction, Complement Fixation Test.
- Aborted fetus shall be tested using the bacteriological examination with biosampling or Polymerase Chain Reaction methods, and aborted sows shall be tested for Rose Bengal (plate) Test, Complement Fixation Test.

4) horses:

- if brucellosis (bursitis) is suspected based on the current symptoms Rose Bengal (plate) Test, Complement Fixation Test;
- sporting and circus horses before being moved (transported) to another country) Rose Bengal (plate) Test, Complement Fixation Test; and
- one percent of the total population once a year Rose Bengal (plate) Test, Complement Fixation Test.

5) elk (deer):

• once a year when antlers are being removed from stags – Rose Bengal (plate) Test.

6) camels:

• including young animals 4-6 months of age – once a year – Rose Bengal (plate) Test, Complement Fixation Test.

7) dogs:

• dogs living on the premises (shepherd dogs) – once a year – Serum Agglutination Test, Complement Fixation Test.

If testing, done in accordance with the established methods, results in any positive and/or suspect cases within a herd that had previously been disease-free, the diagnosis shall be clarified (reestablished) using the same blood sample by retesting it with the Serum Agglutination Test and Complement Fixation Test methods, in successive order.

According to diagnostic evaluation, if the result comes back as positive, such animals shall be considered brucellosis positive.

Depending on the epizootic status in the Republic, the strategy and tactics for the planned animal diagnostic testing (species, frequency and test methods) shall be adjusted, including the use of screening (random) tests with coverage of at least 10 percent of the total livestock population.

Paragraphs 1089 and 1090 shall be amended as follows:

1089: If, in the course of animal testing completed in accordance with established methods, there is any positive and/or suspect cases found in herds that earlier were disease-free, the diagnosis shall be clarified (re-established) by re-testing those animals in 15 to 20 calendar days, using diagnostic methods identified in paragraph 1087 of the present Regulations, and by isolating those cattle from the remaining herd until the diagnosis is finalized.

1090: If the diagnosis is confirmed negative based on the diagnosis clarification efforts, a record of the diagnostic test results shall be made in the Farm Animals Identification Data Base.

Paragraph 1091-1 shall be amended as follows:

1091-1: If test results come back positive, in accordance with paragraphs 1087 and 1091 of the present Regulations, the State Veterinarian of the relevant administrative territory within two working days:

- 1) shall inform the owners of livestock that tested positive for brucellosis of their diagnostic test results; and
- 2) shall issue instructions for the livestock owners to isolate all positive animals from the remaining herd, based on the examination report (test protocol).

The livestock owner can challenge the diagnostic test results within three working days. Challenging of the diagnostic test results shall be done by re-testing the control blood samples of the same animals kept in the veterinary labs or new blood samples taken from the same animals by a panel using methods identified in paragraph 1087 of the present Regulations. If re-testing is requested by any territorial division of the competent veterinary authority, the procedure shall be paid from budget funds. However if the request comes from the owner, the cost shall be borne by the livestock owner, according to sub-paragraph 6-1) paragraph 2 Article 35 of the Law. Re-testing shall be performed in

the veterinary lab created in accordance with sub-paragraph 3) paragraph 1 Article 11 of the Law. Animals shall be kept isolated from the remaining herd until the re-test results come back.

Paragraphs 1092 and 1093 shall be amended as follows:

1092: If the diagnostic test results are not challenged by the livestock owners within the timeframe specified in paragraph 1091-1 of the present Regulations, or brucellosis positive animals were found in the course of re-testing in accordance with paragraph 1091-1 of the present Regulations, the Chief State Veterinarian of the relevant administrative territory, based on the examination report (test protocol):

- 1) shall send no more than 6 (six) heads with the highest antibody titers to the industrial slaughter facilities (meat packer, slaughter plant) (hereinafter slaughter facility) to have them slaughtered under control, within a limit of five calendar days;
- 2) shall send the remaining herd of brucellosis positive animals to slaughter facilities for stamping-out, within a limit of 15 (fifteen) calendar days.

At the stamping-out slaughter facility, the division of the local executive authority, as part of the diagnostic test program funded by the budget allocated for the relevant fiscal year, shall take samples of biological (pathological) material from animals slaughtered under control and send them to the State Veterinary Lab for the PCR and bacteriological examination including biosampling to establish the status of location (herd), excluding livestock locations affected by brucellosis.

1093: Livestock tested positive for brucellosis shall be marked by hot iron or freeze brands with letter "B" around the jaw or hind quarters.

Paragraph 1095 shall be deleted.

Paragraph 1096 shall be amended as follows:

1096: If the PCR test result is positive, the Chief State Veterinarian of the relevant administrative territory shall perform:

- 1) an epizootological study of the premises to define characteristics of the epizootic hotbed and epizootic process, the vector source and its transfer factors, technological processes, and principles according to which the livestock groups are distributed on the farm (flock, herd or any other group of livestock); and
- 2) identification of boundaries of the epizootic hotbed and affected premises.

After the epizootological study report from the Chief State Veterinarian is received, the Chief Veterinary Officer shall make a submission to the local executive authority of the relevant administrative territory.

Based on the submission of the Chief Veterinary Officer, the local executive authority of the relevant administrative territory shall make a decision to impose temporary restrictive measures on a settlement

(village, town), part of a settlement, or an isolated premises (a flock, herd or any other group of livestock), regardless of the form of ownership, that have an epizootic hotbed on its territory or any adjacent territory that faces the risk of having new epizootic hotbeds developed. Temporary restrictive measures shall be in place until the bacteriological test results are finalized.

A settlement or a premise that has established two or more organized herds or flocks, temporary restrictive measures may be applied, based on risk assessment. Those restrictive measures may be for part of the herd, or isolated premises, or based on the livestock group distribution principle (flock, herd or any other group of livestock).

When temporary restrictive measures are imposed, the local executive authority jointly with the livestock owner shall take measures to prevent the spread of the disease (isolation, disinfection of facilities where positive animals were kept, and other activities). During the period of temporary restrictive measures, the state veterinary organization engaged in the eradication of the most dangerous animal diseases (outbreak response team) shall disinfect the facilities where positive animals were kept.

If bacteriological test results are negative as per submission of the Chief Veterinary Officer, the local executive authority of the relevant administrative territory shall lift the temporary restrictive measures.

If the bacteriological test results are positive, the Chief State Veterinarian of the relevant administrative territory shall perform:

- 1) an epizootological study of the premises in order to define the following characteristics of the epizootic hotbed and epizootic process; the source of infection and factors of its transfer; related technological processes; and size of the livestock herd and its segregation; and
- 2) identification of boundaries of the epizootic hotbed and affected premises.

Paragraphs 1098 and 1099 shall be amended as follows:

1098: After the epizootological study report from the Chief State Veterinarian is received, the Chief Veterinary Officer shall make a submission to the local executive authority of the relevant administrative territory.

Based on the submission of the Chief Veterinary Officer, the local executive authority of the relevant administrative territory shall make a decision to impose restrictive measures on a settlement (village, town), part of a settlement or an isolated premises or a group of livestock (a flock, herd or any other group of livestock), regardless of the form of ownership, that has an epizootic hotbed on its territory or any adjacent territory that faces the risk of having new epizootic hotbeds developed.

1099: For any settlement or premises that has established two or more organized herds or flocks, restrictive measures may be applied to its part or an isolated premises, or they may be based on the livestock group distribution principle (flock, herd or any other group of livestock), with due regard to its risk assessment.

Paragraph 1136 shall be amended as follows:

1136: In epizootic hotbed locations with small ruminants affected by brucellosis:

- 1) positive animals, including other species, located inside the epizootic hotbed regardless of their physiological conditions, breeding or economic value, as well as any offspring up to 3 (three) months of age received from the positive animals (if any) shall be sent for slaughter; and
- 2) sick cats and dogs shall be destroyed.

Paragraph 1189 shall be amended as follows:

1189: The following veterinary and sanitary measures shall be implemented to prevent the spread of leucosis among animals:

- 1) new arrivals shall be placed under quarantine with serological tests made for leucosis;
- 2) compliance with the aseptic and antiseptic regulations shall be mandatory during the veterinary and zootechnical animal treatment procedures;
- 3) identification of farm animals;
- 4) routine disinfection of facilities and equipment with disinfectants registered in the Republic of Kazakhstan and/or the Eurasian Economic Union member states;
- 5) diagnostic testing of animals in accordance with the animal disease control action plan;
- 6) measures shall be taken to prevent:
 - introduction of livestock from the premises that have no disease-free status or those that have not been quarantined; and/or
 - livestock re-grouping without the approval from the Chief Veterinary Officer of the relevant administrative territory.

Paragraph 1214 shall be amended as follows:

1214: When cattle affected by Bovine Leukemia Virus (hereinafter - BLV) is found, the competent veterinary authority shall have the right to reject the importation of the entire shipment of animals under quarantine, or offspring of those animals that were found BLV positive, except as otherwise provided in the agreement between the parties.

Paragraphs 1219 and 1220 shall be amended as follows:

1219: Recovery of the BLV affected premises shall be performed:

- 1) in a herd with up to 100 heads, through conducting:
 - the complete simultaneous herd replacement (slaughter) on the affected premises if over 30 percent of the cattle herd have been infected; or
 - a systematic program of immunodiffusion tests, Enzyme Immunoassay Test and hematologic tests according to the protocol specified in paragraph 1198 of the present Regulations, the isolation of sick animals from the herd and their subsequent slaughter at the slaughter facilities when less than 30 percent of the cattle herd is infected.
- 2) in a herd with more than 100 head, through conducting a systematic program of immunodiffusion tests, Enzyme Immunoassay Test and hematologic tests according to the protocol specified in paragraph 1198 of the present Regulations, the isolation of sick animals from the herd and their subsequent slaughter at the slaughter facilities.

1220: Recovery of the BLV affected locations using the immunodiffusion tests, Enzyme Immunoassay Test and hematologic tests according to the protocol specified in paragraph 1198 of the present Regulations shall be performed as follows:

- 1) livestock older than six months shall be tested;
- 2) subsequent serological testing including immunodiffusion tests, Enzyme Immunoassay Test and hematologic tests shall be performed in accordance with the protocol specified in paragraph 1199 of the present Regulations at four months intervals until two consecutive negative test results are obtained. Facilities shall be disinfected after each diagnostic test with disinfectants registered in the Republic of Kazakhstan and/or the Eurasian Economic Union member states;
- 3) the affected premises shall be declared recovered after all sick animals have been delivered for slaughter, the facilities and the adjacent territory have been disinfected for the final time, and other measures stipulated in the present Regulations have been implemented.
- II. In accordance with the prescribed legal procedures, the Department of Veterinary and Food Safety of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan shall provide for the following:
 - 1) state registration of the present Order with the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Kazakhstan;
 - 2) within ten calendar days after its state registration with the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the copy of the present order shall be referred for official publication in the printed periodical publications and the Adylet Legal Information System, and also within five working days, in the Republican State Enterprise "The Republican Legal Information Center" to be placed with the Reference Controlling Bank of the Normative Legal Acts of the Republic of Kazakhstan;
 - 3) the present Order shall be posted on the website of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the government intranet portal;
 - 4) The supervising Vice-Minister of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan shall bear responsibility for the execution of the present Order; and
 - 5) The present Order shall be put into effect ten calendar days after its first official

publication.

Minister of Agriculture Republic of Kazakhstan A. Mamytbekov

«APPROVED» Minister of Finar Republic of Kaza B. Sultanov	
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Minister of the N	lational Economy
Republic of Kaz	<u> </u>
E. Dosayev	
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